

Dogs ACT newsletter

K9 Capers



From Dogs ACT

Canberra went into lockdown commencing Thursday 12 August at 5pm, following our first infection. Since then, we have been in lockdown but hope is on the horizon with the ACT Government having a plan for reopening at midnight on Friday 15th October.

Dogs ACT would like to advise its members that while the office within the EPIC precincts is closed, the office staff are working remotely. They can do most everything they can at the office; items such as membership cards, registration papers, litter registrations etc are being printed on a regular basis however, please note that your processing of these items will take fractionally longer than usual. Monies will need to be deposited directly into the Dogs ACT account – please remember to add your NAME so that staff can identify your payment from those of others.

It is hoped that the office will be back in its usual place, at our office in the EPIC showgrounds, on Tuesday 19th October 2021 at 9.30am.

Since 01 July 2021, all dog owners must register with the ACT Government digital database annually. Owners who fail to sign up may face a \$150 fine. Dog details must be updated every year as at present approximately 95 per cent of dogs found had out of date details listed. This registration is for all pups over 8wks of age & must be updated if you move home. Owners will receive an annual registration reminder at least 14 days before the renewal date & if your dog is already registered, there will be **no cost** to renew their details along with your details.

As a member, you need to be aware of all the ACT Government laws pertaining to dogs & how they affect you & the responsible ownership of your dog/s.

From the Office

The Office would like to advise Members to continue emailing the office with your enquiries, telephone the office (only during our normal business hours) & staff will assist you. Once you email them with your request, they will reply that the request was received & advise of any fees due & bank account information. If you have puppy registrations, while the papers will not be printed immediately, they can let you know registration numbers etc.

If you have changed your address email or telephone number, then it could be that we are sending a reminder to someone else. When contacting the office please give them your current details so that we can help you.

Training Classes – These restarted on Sundays at 12 noon on days when there are no shows in the local area. Entry remains at \$5 a class which must be prepaid via Show Manager under ACT Events. If classes are cancelled or not happening a note will be placed on the Dogs ACT Facebook page. Come along, have fun as well as help socialise your dog.

NOTE: There are no training classes while Canberra is in lockdown. Once these recommence Dogs ACT will advise everyone via facebook, website & our Dogs ACT app (download from google play or apply play).

Dogs ACT has an ever-increasing **library** & if you want to know about a breed or thinking of getting a dog, then why not come in & have a browse. Dogs ACT are implementing a come, look & relax days, following the training classes, once recommenced. Come along, look at the books, have a coffee & cake & see how Dogs ACT can help you learn more about your breed & dogs in general.

Breed Profile – Labrador Retriever

Labradors originated in Newfoundland, off the coast of Canada, & were taken to England on fishing boats in the early 19th century. Here they were developed & bred as a hunting dog, being used for retrieving game in rugged terrain & icy waters. They were popular as tough, strong dogs with excellent scenting powers & a strong desire to please. Even today, Labrador Retrievers are the most popular breed with shooters. & they also work as police dogs, customs dogs & guide dogs for the blind, proving they are very versatile.

When considering a dog, please realise that you are taking it on for its lifetime. Labradors live from between 12 to 15 years of age.



They are around 54-57 cms (21” to 23”) at their shoulder, so a medium sized dog & come in colours of wholly black, yellow or liver/chocolate. Yellows range from light cream to red fox shades.

Labradors Retrievers are intelligent, active, fun-loving dogs, eager to please & extremely sociable. They want to be

everybody's friend, & are not a one-person dog. The breed is wonderful with children, & makes a good watchdog – adopting a big deep bark to notify of any intruders.

Their compatibility with other pets is excellent.

Labradors need a large, draught proof kennel, raised several centimetres off the grounds. In summer they require plenty of shade. Like all dogs. Labradors are happiest if kept fit. Adults will benefit from a daily walk of a minimum of 30 minutes, while pups will need periods of play. As a Labrador will need some free running, a large backyard is desirable – especially if you live in an area where having a dog off lead in public parks is not permitted.



Labradors are sociable dogs that really need to be part of a family. If left alone in a backyard most of the time, they may get up to mischief or take to persistent barking.

Labradors can easily be trained to be well behaved indoors, however they shed quite a lot of hair at certain times of the year. As Labradors can also be great diggers & chewers as puppies, it is a good idea to fence an area for the dog if you are attached to your garden. Labradors have a tendency to put on weight, which can cause health problems so their diet needs to be carefully restricted as they mature. Obesity can predispose them to diabetes, heart disease & arthritis.

Please note that conscientious breeders have their dogs x-rayed for hip dysplasia & osteochondrosis, their dogs eyes tested annually by a vet ophthalmologist to detect any disease at the earliest stages & do not breed from affected animals.



The ideal owner is a family with a well fenced yard. As Labradors can be exuberant & boisterous as youngsters, it may be difficult for either the very young or elderly family members to control them unaided at this stage.

Now you know a little about the Labrador Retriever & have decided this is the dog for you or want more information, please make contact with a breed club or Dogs ACT. They will be able to give you information on available puppies, & suggest dog events you can take your dog along to & perhaps participate in for the next few years, which will keep both the dog fit & occupied & yourself busy. Speak to breeders, in this way you will gain a better perspective of the breed & its needs.

Labrador Retrievers are a gundog & are placed in the Gundog Group at conformation shows. Dogs ACT has a specific Gundog club which holds many events from trials, shows, retrieving events & more. If you are interested, please contact the office & they will advise those registered breeders who can offer you much more information.

From the ANKC

Dogs Victoria advised that due to the pandemic restrictions the FCI show scheduled to take place on 12FEB22 will now be held on 26MAR22.

From the FCI

Member from the Netherlands has been suspended in Luxembourg (Mrs Bo de Bruijne)

The FCI have supplied the ANKC with a list of all those prefixes being used in other countries. If you are importing a dog please contact Dogs ACT to verify the pedigree paperwork.

Mrs Christine Epuras has been suspended until 07SEP2023 as a show judge.

Mr Sergej Vanzha has been suspended until 31AUG2026 as a show judge.

New Members

Dogs ACT would like to welcome the following new Members:

Barbara Gough and her Labrador/Poodle cross

Michelle & Adam Jones with their Dobermann

Douglas Prescott with his Labrador cross

Linda Peek with her Golden Retriever

Sheneise Hall with her Australian Shepherd

Please check out all our communication channels from the website, facebook, instagram, our app and this newsletter. We hope that you enjoy your dogs and please contact us via email on admin@dogsact.org.au or telephone (02) 62424404 between 9.30am & 2.30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. Dogs ACT is only open on those days. Our other communication channels such as Facebook will have the latest news & information for you

on events, training, education sessions & lots more. Our website contains an event calendar & information for Members on their own page, which would be of interest to you all.

Welcome to Dogs ACT!

News Dots

DID YOU KNOW? More & more owners are taking out dog insurance, especially over the past 18 months while there has been a global pandemic. Research (UK) has found that almost 50% of them have changed to add full cover for behaviour. It seems that insurers would now cover the cost of behavioural therapy by a vet to treat an animal's emotional distress, perhaps owing to separation once their owners have returned to work. A lot of dogs were purchased during the pandemic but animal organisations in the UK state that a lot of dogs are having owners handing them in for adoption as they don't need the companionship now. It seems some pets might need thousands of dollars worth of treatment.

DID YOU KNOW? If you are a dog in Germany life is good. While there are strict rules governing the training & care of pets, in fact one state in Germany has a test they give to potential owners before they are allowed to own a pet from shelters. Everywhere you go there are parks where every week dogs are undergoing training, not just in basic obedience but also in basic agility. Strangers will comment if your dog misbehaves. Owners are encouraged to train their dogs & Germany is one of a few countries to have animal rights in their constitution.

DID YOU KNOW? Australia's top sheep & cattle working dogs will compete in Carcoar NSW in November in a series of trials for the nation's biggest prize purse of \$20,000. There are already over 300 dogs entered in the cattle, sheep & yard dog trials. Want to know more about this & perhaps attend? Then check out the facebook page at [The Working Dog Challenge Trial & Sale - Home | Facebook](#) for more details

DID YOU KNOW? In Los Angeles where cannabis among other states in the USA are legalising it, it appears a dog owner wondered why his dog did not want his dinner & seemed 'out of it'. The dog was rushed to the vet, only for him to state that the dog was stoned! It had picked up a pellet outside a school & thinking it was a treat had eaten it. The vet was concerned as dogs can be poisoned when ingesting drugs such as cannabis.

Numbers of cannabis intoxicated dogs are on the increase & signs are unsteadiness on their feet, depression, dilated eyes, dribbling urine, sensitivity to touch & sound, a slow heart rate & even low body temperature – some of which appear about 20-40mins after ingestion.

DID YOU KNOW? Bronx & Bomber, both Belgian Malinois, who are trained & handled by Victorian Police have become the first dogs to be embedded within a police bomb squad in Australia. The dogs are sent out to ‘find’ & ‘indicate’ when a bomb or bomb making equipment is located.

DID YOU KNOW? Lewis, a rescue greyhound, a former resident of Melbourne, was booked to fly on Singapore Airlines when his owner moved to Florence, Italy, in the cargo hold. However, as the flight was almost empty he was bumped up to business class with his owner. There were no accidents, he ate delicately & made himself at home on the business class recliners. The crew said he was the best dog every including fully trained service dogs. Lewis celebrated his birthday on the flight & was totally spoiled by the staff. Don't think this will be a common occurrence once lockdown is over & international flights are being allowed again – but well done Lewis!

Are you a Club Secretary? Dogs ACT are seeking historical information & pictures from your Club for a future project. If you would like to participate, please contact the office via email & you will be contacted.

A Gunnedah couple won more than \$3.3 million in the Saturday lottery & their aim is now to find a nice home for them & their dogs. The dogs are going to be kept in luxury perhaps.

Show news

Members ~ Affiliates continue to submit dates for approval so that they can bring you shows. While there have been numerous events postponed or cancelled, Dogs ACT wanted you to know that the affiliates are not sitting back waiting for things to come to them but are endeavouring to put together events for you & others to attend. [A list](#) of those events has been put onto the Dogs ACT website for you to check out so that you too can plan ahead.

Sports news

Members ~ Affiliates continue to submit dates for approval so that they can bring you dog sports. While there have been numerous events postponed or cancelled, particularly of late where Canberra has gone into lockdown & we all have to stay at home, Dogs ACT wanted you to know that the affiliates are not sitting back waiting for things to come to them but are endeavouring to put together events for you & others to attend. [A list](#) of those events has been put onto the Dogs ACT website for you to check out so that you too can plan ahead.

Please support your sports clubs & make these events a success (once the lockdown is lifted)

Do you run trials at your Club? Would you like others to celebrate your results with you? Then send us your Club trial results and we will put them into our newsletter, so we can congratulate those Dogs ACT Members dogs.

OCOTBER Issue – next month we will have another Breed Profile. Would you like to see your breed in our newsletter? Please send all articles & your comments to Dogs ACT office at admin@dogsact.org.au

Rear End Awareness

Your Diary –October/November – please be advised that events are being planned but often postponed or cancelled due to the ACT lockdown.

Watch this page for future events once the ACT opens up after 15OCT21.

13 Oct	Agility Trial – Ribbon & Jumping TDTC – 7pm start
23 Oct	Scent Work Trial – CDC
30 Oct	Evening Agility Trial – Jumping & Games CDC – 6pm start
06 Nov	Double Rally Trials BDOC – 9am start
13 Nov	Obedience Trial CDC – 6pm start
15 Nov	Evening Agility Trial Ribbon, Jumping BDOC – 6pm start
20/21 Nov	Belconnen ABKC – 3 AB Championship Shows
20 Nov	Scent Work Trial CDC – 8am start
30 Nov	Agility trial Gamblers & Ribbon CDC – 6pm start

